

reasons. The basis of the main part of our wealth and prosperity is found in the annual products of the soil. The result of the season's returns from the soil and its allied industries will affect the whole industrial life of the Dominion. Of what kind then is the harvest, good, bad or medium, abundant or sparse, is a matter which affects all more or less. Again the hearts of our farmers have been cheered, and the country, in the goodness of God, has been blessed with a bounteous season. Local conditions of more or less rain here and there, of a storm swept belt, or such like variations, do not affect appreciably the grand result. In almost every part of the country, crops of all kinds, and fruit of every variety have been abundant, and in many cases above the average. As the Dominion becomes more and more developed, and agriculture advances, it will, like other forms of industry, become specialized to a much greater degree than at present. We see this process going on before our eyes. One region is famed for fruit as its chief product, another for its dairies and creameries, another for grain or cattle raising, or beet root, and so on through the whole list of products. In all of these, taking the country over, the reports are fair, good, or abundant, and nowhere failure either complete or very noticeably partial.

From the west, now, and destined still more to be our great, a most inexhaustible granary for wheat, and as time goes on, other kinds of grains, reports are, on the whole, most encouraging. Every intelligent Canadian knows somewhat of how much this means for not the west only, but for the whole Dominion. It is a material blessing of no common kind, gladdening the hearts of thousands of western farmers, and sending streams of comfort and wealth into every part of the country. What in our new land we most of all need is population of the right sort to come and settle upon and till the rich virgin soil of our great west, and nothing could contribute more to bringing this population to our shores, than the fact made known in old, congested seats of population, of abundant harvests here year after year. Let us be thankful to Almighty God for His goodness to us in this respect.

Abundance and material prosperity, such as He has for some years past been blessing us with in Canada, are not without their dangers. The temptation in our circumstances to luxury, extravagance, vain display, and moral, intellectual and spiritual deterioration is very strong, greater, all history teaches than any people almost have been able to withstand. At any time in a nation's history, yielding to such temptation, is more or less destructive and if persisted in, fatal. To a young nation such as our own, it is especially fraught with danger. We are undone if we get poisoned at the very roots of our national existence, if at the very start of our national life, we get switched on to a course that must end in disaster. It will require wisdom, self-restraint, strong moral fibre if we are to escape a great danger. It will require every right minded citizen to cultivate a due sense of dependence upon Almighty God for daily blessings, a deep and abiding sense of responsibility for the use we make of them. And for this nothing can be so salutary as the restraints of peace and undefiled religion, as the teachings of the gospel with regard to our receiving

and holding our blessings as stewards accountable to their great Giver. The cultivation of intellectual and aesthetic tastes, as against vulgar, animal indulgence may do much, but nothing so goes to the very foundation of all right principles of conduct as the teachings of God's word. It is gratifying as an indication, so far as it goes, of making some right use of our daily temporal and material blessings, that in our own Church, there has been such a commendable spirit of liberality shown last year in support of every branch of its work as to make it the best in all our Church's history. As the work and claims of the Christian Church throughout its whole extent are constantly growing, and God, in giving us bounteous harvests, is putting it within the reach of all to do more, we can give tangible evidence of our gratitude to Him, and of turning wisely to account the prosperity He is blessing us with, by a correspondingly liberal response to all the claims which God through the work of His Church and the cause of His kingdom in the world is making upon us.

How to Worship.

Over the entrance to the little parish church at Hawarden, England, where Mr. Gladstone worshipped, are inscribed these directions, which may be suggestive to those of other sects as well as the humble parishioners for whom they were designed:

"On your Way to Church.—On your way to the Lord's house, be thoughtful, be silent, or say but little, and that little good. Speak not of other men's faults; think of your own; for you are going to ask forgiveness. Never stay outside; go in at once; time spent inside should be precious.

"In Church.—Kneel down very humbly and pray. Spend the time that remains in prayers. Remember the awful presence into which you have come. Do not look about to discover who are coming in, nor for any other cause. It matters not to you what others are doing; attend to yourself. Fasten your thoughts firmly on the holy service; do not miss one word. This needs a severe struggle; you have no time for vain thoughts. The blessed Spirit will strengthen you if you persevere.

"After Church.—Remain kneeling, and pray. Be silent. Speak to no one till you are outside; the church is God's house, even when prayer is over. Be quiet and thoughtful as you go through the churchyard.

"On your way Home.—Be careful of your talk, or the world will soon slip back into your heart. Remember where you have been, and what you have done. Resolve and try to live a better life."—Presbyterian Banner.

Just to remove the popular impression that a college graduate thinks necessarily that he "knows it all," it would be good missionary work for the graduates of this summer to go back to their homes and put in a solid month at asking respectful questions of practical men and women about the daily occupations at which they are expert.

Sometimes it is said that Christian Endeavor is trying to run the churches; but, if you will investigate, you will find that those churches would never run in any other way."

Sparks From Other Anvils.

Endeavor World: The recent revelations in regard to cheating in examinations by the students of a famous boys' academy were a shock to all who regard manhood as the highest product of a school. Of what use is it to graduate young men learned in Greek and mathematics if they have so perverted a sense of right and wrong as to steal information? What better is it to steal facts than to steal dollars? What solace is there in saying that the ethical code of boys' schools brands as mean a young fellow who will not assist another in an examination? What relief is there for the feelings of fathers and mothers in the apology that the examinations as conducted tempt weak men to cheat? At the root of things lies the fact that if school examinations and the codes of honor among schoolboys block the track to the building of honest character, we are in a bad way, as a nation, in spite of our boasted civilization.

Africo-American Presbyterian: Some negro leaders are not only woefully weak in the wrong place and at the wrong time, but they insist on giving us away and justifying the other fellow in his meanness.

Southern Evangelist: Some comment is being caused by the fact that the presidents of the larger universities are no longer ministers. It was formerly almost an invariable rule that the college president was a preacher. The reason for the change that has already occurred is not that the minister is no longer fitted for such a position, but that he is now no longer the only one fitted for it. There are a larger number of laymen, both absolutely and relatively, who are able to fill such a place than there were in former days. Besides this, the function of the college president has in a large measure changed. The success of a college president is coming more and more to be measured by the amount of increase which he has brought to the college funds. It is easy to see that other men than ministers may be much better fitted for such work.

Pittsburg Christian Advocate: The friends of the national theater are again urging the desirability of such an institution for the production of worthy actors and actresses. The public moneys of the American people are used in a good many strange ways, but we are of the opinion that it will be a long time before our taxes shall be drawn on to support a public playhouse. They have enough of that over in France to suffice for several generations to come. It is a poor experiment at best.

Western Recorder: Analogists for heesy in Christian institutions are fond of emphasizing "the reverent manner" in which the professor is said to teach, as if that helped the case any. Is atheism any better, pray, because taught in "a reverent manner"? "Reverent manner"—nonsense! A lie told in a "reverent manner" is a lie all the same. We once knew a boy who lied in the most reverent manner, and the bigger the lie, the more reverent was his manner.